

Minutes for Health Data Committee Meeting

July 13, 1999 (3:30PM)

Room 114 in the Cannon Health Building

Present:

HDC : Lori Reichard, Wen Kuo, Brett Lazar, Keith Petersen , Sandra Peck and Orrin Colby (presiding)

Others : Luis Paita. Kevin Lertwachara, John Kane, Michelle McOmber, Robert Rolfs and Janet Scarlet

1. Approval of minutes of last meeting - No action taken due to absence of quorum.
2. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair - No action taken due to absence of quorum.
3. Committee appointments/reappointments - Not covered due to low Committee attendance
4. Year-end report of staff -

Luis discussed staff's and Committee's activities in FY 1999, including updates on databases development, health plan performance measurement, Medicaid and other collaborative projects, statistical reports completed, internet development, budget, Committee and staff transitions, data sales and data requests received, and other activities.

Details, including list of reports and data sales, are contained in attached handout.

Looking at the list of data requests, Brett Lazar wondered why there are very few hospitals that use the data bases and commented that it might be worthwhile to market the data to the other hospitals. John Kane explained that Ogden regional gets all the data for Columbia hospitals in the state, and that is why they order it and not the other Columbia hospitals.

5. Update: Reorganization of DOH data offices

Bob Rolfs explained the reorganization, which placed three data offices into one agency called the Center for Health Data (**please see enclosed Organizational Chart**). The Office of Health Data Analysis will now be known as Office of Health Care Statistics and will continue to be the staff to the Health Data Committee. The other two Offices are Office of Public Health Assessment (formerly Bureau of Surveillance and Analysis) and Office of Vital Records and Statistics (formerly Bureau of Vital Records). One intent of the reorganization was to delineate what each office does and try to simplify and improve functions that overlap. The Department leadership did not want to change significantly what each office does. Changing names is the most that has been done. Luis Paita will be the Executive Secretary of this Committee and Bob will be attending the meetings as a representative of the Health Department.

Orrin stated that in the last meeting Scott encouraged members of committee to comment and ask any questions. When the legislature meets, who will be our spokesmen and Orrin said he was concerned that Denise was so active.

Bob said that it would be Rod Betit, but Scott and Bob would be involved as well. Committee members could bring concerns to Bob and Scott.

Sandy asked if there would be any change in the way the Committee functions?

Bob answered that he didn't think it should affect the Committee. It should have the same functions as it has in the past.

Wen asked if the other two offices have a separate committee like the Health Data Committee?

Bob answered that they did many years ago, but not now. We need to have other advisory input from some other source. We don't want to have clashing committees so we are looking on how to do that.

Orrin asked if they were set up legislatively?

Bob answered he would have to check, but probably not.

Sandy asked was there a division between public health data and non public health data?

Bob said historically there has been, but part of what we are trying to do in the Center is not overlap but distinguish between them and clarify their missions.

Orrin said that he would like to encourage Bob to be part of the meetings as much as possible.

6. FY 2000 Plans

Luis discussed Staff's workplan for FY 2000, including administrative functions and coordination with other entities, continued development of patient-level databases (inpatient, ambulatory and emergency department), development of facility-level databases (hospital, nursing home, home health), reports and publications, report cards, Medicaid projects, internet, Child Health Insurance Program evaluation, and USIIS **(please see enclosed worksheet)**. Noted on the worksheet (X on the left column) are tasks that are in danger of not getting done because of the budget cuts.

Keith wanted to know more about the Reports Cards

Luis explained the two components of the report card project: HEDIS (Healthplan Employer Data and Information Set and Satisfaction Surveys. Both are now in the fourth

year of development and reports have been released based on the data.

Luis discussed discussions among staff regarding steps that can be taken in response to the \$232,000 reduction in general appropriations. These steps include cutting expenditures including eliminating positions and funding for the HMO commercial satisfaction survey, elimination or reduction of data development and reporting activities, generation of revenues through intensified marketing

7. Committee retreat

Orrin stated that there has been some discussion as to the need for the Committee to meet in a retreat setting and asked those in attendance for their opinion. He stated that discussion with Committee members not in attendance would help.

Keith stated that a retreat would be a good thing. A rededication for those members that have been on the committee for a while and a dedication for those new members. A review of the critical issues that we have discussed today would be helpful also. He wondered if the retreat should be held after the new member of the Committee (to replace Mike Stapley) is on board.

Brett Lazar agreed that a retreat would be helpful. He stated that he will be retiring soon but and will be resigning from the Committee, but would be willing to participate.

Orrin explained that retirement does not necessarily disqualify Brett from Committee membership. Brett feels that he should be replaced by somebody who uses health data on a daily basis and suggested that a health officer be appointed.

Orrin said that he and Denise used to go and visit the people before their names were given to the Governor for consideration. Everyone agreed that was a good idea.

Orrin asked Bob if he and Scott would be willing to participate in the Retreat.

Bob said yes he thought it would be a good idea if they were both there.

Orrin asked if there was any more questions and then adjourned at 4:40